

COMPLETE LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A method of manufacturing a bipolar graphite article, comprising:
 - (a) forming a first component having an operative side and a back side, and having a protrusion formed on its back side, the first component formed of a compressed mass of expanded graphite particles;
 - (b) forming a second component having an operative side and a back side, and having a recess formed in its back side, the recess being complementary to the protrusion of the first component, the second component formed of a compressed mass of expanded graphite particles; and
 - (c) assembling the first and second components so that the protrusion of the first component is received in the recess of the second component to form a bipolar graphite article.
2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein:
 - step (a) comprises embossing a first sheet of resin-impregnated compressed mass of expanded graphite particles ~~graphite material~~ to form the first component.
3. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the sheet of resin-impregnated compressed mass of expanded graphite particles ~~graphite material~~ is uncured at the time of step (a).

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 3, which further comprises curing the resin-impregnated compressed mass of expanded graphite particles ~~graphite material~~.
5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein:
step (a) comprises compressing a particulate resin impregnated compressed mass of expanded graphite particles ~~graphite material~~.
6. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the resin impregnated compressed mass of expanded graphite particles ~~graphite material~~ is uncured at the time of step (a).
7. (currently amended) The method of claim 6, which further comprises curing the resin impregnated compressed mass of expanded graphite particles ~~graphite material~~.
8. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein:
step (c) includes pressing the first and second components together.
9. (currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein:
in step (a), the compressed mass of expanded graphite particles ~~graphite material~~ is resin impregnated, uncured material; and
curing occurs during the pressing step.
10. (previously presented) A method of manufacturing a bipolar article for a fuel cell, comprising:
(a) providing first and second sheets of a compressed mass of expanded graphite particles, each sheet having first and second parallel opposed surfaces;

- (b) impregnating the sheets with a resin to form uncured resin impregnated sheets;
- (c) calendering the uncured resin impregnated sheets to form first and second calendered uncured resin impregnated sheets;
- (d) embossing the first and second calendered uncured resin impregnated sheets, thereby:
 - (1) forming from the first sheet a first component having a protrusion defined thereon; and
 - (2) forming from the second sheet a second component having a recess defined thereon;
- (e) pressing the first and second components together with the protrusion of the first component received in the recess of the second component; and
- (f) curing the resin of the first and second components and thereby bonding the first and second components together to form the bipolar article.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 2 wherein step (b) comprises embossing a second sheet of resin impregnated compressed mass of expanded graphite particles ~~graphite material~~ to form the second component and further comprising heating the bipolar graphite article after said assembling.

12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) The method according to claim ~~11~~ 12 wherein a resin content of the first sheet of resin-impregnated compressed mass of expanded graphite particles ~~graphite material~~ comprises at least 5% by

weight and up to 60% by weight and a resin content of the second sheet of resin-impregnated compressed mass of expanded graphite particles ~~graphite material~~ comprises at least 5% by weight and up to 60% by weight.

14. (currently amended) The method according to claim 13 wherein the resin content of the first sheet of resin-impregnated compressed mass of expanded graphite particles ~~graphite material~~ is about the same as the resin content of the second ~~flexible-graphite~~ sheet of compressed mass of expanded graphite particles.

Claims 15 & 16 (canceled)

17. (currently amended) The method according to claim ~~11~~ 12 wherein a density of the first sheet of resin-impregnated compressed mass of expanded graphite particles ~~graphite material~~ comprises 0.1 g/cc up to 1.5 g/cc and a density of the second ~~flexible-graphite~~ sheet of compressed mass of expanded graphite particles comprises 0.1 g/cc up to 1.5 g/cc.

18. (currently amended) The method according to claim 17 wherein a density of the first sheet of resin-impregnated compressed mass of expanded graphite particles ~~graphite material~~ is substantially the same as the density of the

second ~~flexible-graphite sheet~~ of compressed mass of expanded graphite particles.

19. (currently amended) The method of claim 2 wherein step (b) comprises embossing a second sheet of resin impregnated compressed mass of expanded graphite particles ~~graphite material~~ to form the second component and further comprising bonding the first component to the second component after said assembling.

20. (previously presented) The method according to claim 19 wherein the bonding consists of heating up the bipolar graphite article.